

PSC NEWS Missouri Public Service Commission

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FY-06-193

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

APRIL 4, 2006

PSC STAFF REACHES AGREEMENT IN CASS COUNTY TELEPHONE INVESTIGATION

JEFFERSON CITY—Cass County Telephone Company customers would receive a onetime bill credit as well as a check from the telephone company under an agreement filed with the Missouri Public Service Commission.

If approved by the five member commission, the agreement calls for one-time bill credits totaling approximately \$350,000 for customers of the Cass County Telephone Company. Customers would also receive checks totaling approximately \$3.25 million. The telephone company would also be under a two year rate moratorium.

The agreement resolves issues associated with a PSC Staff earnings investigation of the Cass County Telephone Company. The agreement was filed by the PSC Staff, the Office of the Public Counsel, Cass County Telephone Company, Limited Partnership, Local Exchange Company, LLC, FairPoint Communications, Inc. and FairPoint Communications Missouri, Inc.

Applications to intervene and participate in this case must be filed on or before **April 24**, **2006**, with the Secretary of the Missouri Public Service Commission, P.O. Box 360, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102.

Copies of the application should be sent to: Nathan Williams, Senior Counsel, Public Service Commission, P.O. Box 360, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102; W.R. England, III and Paul Boudreau, Brydon, Swearengen & England, P.C., 312 East Capitol Ave., P.O. Box 456, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102-0456; Peter Mirakian, III and Mark A. Thornhill, Spencer, Fane, Britt & Browne LLP, 1000 Walnut, Suite 1400, Kansas City, Missouri 64104; Larry W. Dority, Fischer & Dority, P.C., 101 Madison, Suite 400, Jefferson City, Missouri 65101; and the Office of the Public Counsel, Governor Office Building, 200 Madison Street, P.O. Box 2230, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102.

The Office of the Public Counsel is a separate state agency which represents the general public in matters before the Commission. Individual citizens wishing to comment should contact either the Office of the Public Counsel (P.O. Box 2230, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102, telephone 573-751-4857) or the Public Service Commission Staff (P.O. Box 360, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102, telephone 1-800-392-4211).

Cass County Telephone Company serves approximately 7,900 access lines in western Missouri.